

## NOTES AND COMMENTS

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### OVERLOOKED NAMES IN NEPOMORPHA, NEW SYNONYMY, AND A NEW NAME (HETEROPTERA: CORIXIDAE, NOTONECTIDAE)

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In the preparation of a catalog of the aquatic and semiaquatic Heteroptera of the world, I have found two species of Nepomorpha, *Notonecta minutior* Sulzer 1776 and *Notonecta marginata* Müller 1776, that have escaped the notice of recent authors although Reuter (1888) dealt with both of them, and as late as 1933 Hungerford dealt with *marginata*. The synonymies are given below, and a necessary new name is provided for *Notonecta minuta* Hungerford 1926, a junior synonym of *Notonecta minuta* Gmelin 1790, the latter an emendation of *Notonecta minutior* Sulzer 1776.

#### *Notonecta minutior* Sulzer

*Notonecta minutior* Sulzer, 1776:91.

*Notonecta minutior*, Goeze, 1778:169.

*Notonecta minuta* Gallén, 1787:61 (list only; no author or description; nomen nudum).

*Notonecta minutior*, Roemer, 1789:78.

*Notonecta minuta* Gmelin, 1790:2119 (emendation).

*Sigara minutior*, Schrank, 1801:60, 1079.

*Notonecta minuta*, Turton, 1802:605.

*Corisa* sp. Reuter, 1888:377.

This was the species figured by Roesel as *Corisa* sp. (1755, vol. III, p. 159, tab. 29, fig. d) according to Schrank (1801, who erroneously gave the page number as 179). Jansson (1986) did not treat *minutior* in his exhaustive work on Palearctic Corixidae, however he was aware of the name and has now determined that it is most likely synonymous with *Sigara nigrolineata nigrolineata* (Fieber) (pers. comm.). Jansson and Polhemus have submitted a petition to the ICZN for the suppression of both *Notonecta minutior* Sulzer 1776 and *Notonecta minuta* Gmelin 1790 (for the purpose of priority but not homonymy) and placement of *Corisa nigrolineata* Fieber on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.

According to the 1985 code of the ICZN, all of the names given in the synonymy above are available, therefore *Notonecta minuta* Hungerford 1926 is a junior primary homonym and must have a new name as given below.

Whether or not the name *Notonecta minuta* Gmelin 1790, now shown to belong in the genus *Sigara*, is suppressed, any potential synomymical problem with regard to *Sigara minuta* Fabricius 1794 was eliminated by the suppression of the latter name by the ICZN (1988).

**Notonecta marginata Müller**

- Notonecta marginata* Müller, 1776:104 (no. 1177).  
*Notonecta marginata*, Gmelin, 1790:2119 (no. 12).  
*Notonecta marginata*, Turton, 1801:606.  
*Notonecta marginata*, Reuter, 1888:282 (= *Sigara coleoptrata* Fabricius ?).  
*Notonecta marginata*, Kirkaldy, 1897:420 (as var. of *N. glauca* L.).  
*Notonecta marginata*, Oshanin, 1910:975 (= *Notonecta furcata* Fabricius, as var. of *N. glauca* L.).  
*Notonecta marginata*, Oshanin, 1912:91 (= *Notonecta glauca* L.).  
*Notonecta marginata*, Esaki, 1928:69 (as var. of *N. glauca* L., following Kirkaldy 1897, but places species in Corixidae in note 15, p. 75).  
*Notonecta marginata*, Hungerford, 1934:53 (places in Corixidae, following Esaki).

Jansson (1986) did not mention this species in his work on Palearctic Corixidae, as it has not been clear whether the species belongs in Notonectidae or Corixidae. Jansson (pers. comm.) has reanalyzed the original description and the *Notonecta* and Corixidae of Denmark and concluded that *Notonecta marginata* Müller 1776 and *Notonecta obliqua* Gallén 1787 are synonymous; a discussion is included in a petition by Jansson and Polhemus to the ICZN for the suppression of *N. marginata* Müller and conservation of *N. obliqua* Gallén.

*N. marginata* Müller was said by Esaki (1928), followed by Hungerford (1934:53), to belong in the Corixidae, however, it seems likely that he misinterpreted the original description. Esaki stated that the species description did not agree with any northern European notonectid species known to him, but matched all of the common corixid forms of Denmark; he also noted that Schiödte (MS notes in Schiödte's copy of Müller 1776 now owned by the British Museum) placed the species as a synonym of *Corixa hellensi* Fallén, a notion rejected by Jansson (pers. comm.).

**Notonecta hungerfordi**, New Name

- Notonecta hungerfordi* Polhemus, NEW NAME.  
*Notonecta minuta* Hungerford, 1926:14 (primary homonym of *Notonecta minuta* Gmelin 1790).  
*Notonecta minuta*, Hungerford, 1934:138.  
*Notonecta minuta*, Stys & Riha, 1975:167.

Because this rare species has been cited only three times in the literature including the original description, a case cannot be supported for suppression by the ICZN of the name *Notonecta minuta* Gmelin 1790 to preserve *Notonecta minuta* Hungerford 1926. I therefore propose the replacement name *Notonecta hungerfordi* Polhemus.—*J. T. Polhemus, University of Colorado Museum, 3115 S. York, Englewood, Colorado 80110.*

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